

CHAS-356

circa 1800

WRIGHT HOUSE (Morris's Discovery)

Nanjemoy

Private

Located directly across the street from the Nanjemoy Baptist Church, the Wright House was built circa 1800 on a tract of land known as Morris's Discovery owned by Thomas Perry. It was Perry who in 1791 sold the land on which the Nanjemoy Baptist Church was later built. The house is very similar to several other houses in the county, particularly the Trinity Lake House (CHAS-294), Mt. Pleasant (CHAS-208) and the oldest part of Linden (CHAS-48), among others. It is interesting to note that Reverend William Chiles, who served the Nanjemoy Baptist Church for 37 years, occupied Mt. Pleasant (CHAS-208) throughout his entire life.

The Wright House has been somewhat altered through the years but retains the three bay front elevation and steeply pitched roof so characteristic of this house type. Two end chimneys, also a standard feature, were removed several decades ago. The house is sheathed on the exterior with asbestos siding and has a two part addition at one end. The front porch, created by extending the front roof, may be an original feature.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CHAS-356

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

FILE # 040 305 304

1 NAME

HISTORIC

WRIGHT HOUSE (Morris's Discovery)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East side of Baptist Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Nanjemoy

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1st

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Charles

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Nanjemoy Baptist Church
C/O Rev. C. S. Hendon, Pastor

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baptist Church Road

CITY, TOWN

Nanjemoy

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Charles County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Charles Street (P.O. Box B)

CITY, TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland 20646

Liber #:

Folio #:

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A modest frame house situated directly across the road from the Nanjemoy Baptist Church, the Wright House is identifiable as an early house type despite several additions and modifications, the most drastic being the removal of its two end chimneys.

With a three bay facade, steeply pitched gable roof and two room first floor plan, the Wright House can be categorized as being of a regionally popular house type represented by such buildings as the Trinity Lake House (CHAS-294), Mt. Pleasant (CHAS-208), and the oldest part of Linden (CHAS-48), among others. The principal facade faces west and has a centered door flanked by two 6-over-6 windows. The unbroken roof continues down to cover a full width front porch. A two part wing, the outer section of which is positioned at a right angle to the house, extends out from the end of the house where two chimneys once stood. The whole of the exterior is presently sheathed with asphalt shingles in an imitation brick pattern.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located directly across the street from the Nanjemoy Baptist Church, the Wright House was built circa 1800 on a tract of land known as Morris's Discovery owned by Thomas Perry. It was Perry who in 1791 sold the land on which the Nanjemoy Baptist Church was later built. The house is very similar to several other houses in the county, particularly the Trinity Lake House (CHAS-294), Mt. Pleasant (CHAS-208) and the oldest part of Linden (CHAS-48), among others. It is interesting to note that Reverend William Chiles, who served the Nanjemoy Baptist Church for 37 years, occupied Mt. Pleasant (CHAS-208) throughout his entire life.

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

J. Richard Rivoire, Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Charles County Planning Department

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Charles County Courthouse

TELEPHONE

645-6537

CITY OR TOWN

La Plata

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438